

**BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In the Matter of the Suspension or Revocation )  
of the Educator Certificate of )  
Lenora Middleton Tucci )  
Certificate 122796 )

## CONSENT ORDER OF PUBLIC REPRIMAND

## SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on October 11, 2006. On May 19, 2006, the State Department of Education (Department) sent notice to Lenora Middleton, now known as Lenora Middleton Tucci, of the possible suspension of her educator certificate, by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested. Ms. Tucci requested a hearing, but subsequently agreed to an appearance before the State Board on an agreed-upon record and to accept the issuance of a public reprimand. After considering the record and Ms. Tucci's appearance, the State Board voted to issue a public reprimand to Ms. Tucci, on the agreed-upon terms as stated in this Order.

Lenora  
Middleton  
Tucci

Initial here

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Tucci holds a valid South Carolina certificate and has over thirty-eight years of teaching experience. Effective January 4, 2006, Ms. Tucci was employed by Anderson County School District Five to serve for the remainder of the school year as an English teacher at Westside High School. Ms. Tucci resigned from her employment with the District effective March 15, 2006, following an investigation into allegations that Ms. Tucci treated students in an insensitive manner and that she had not provided completely truthful information on her application for employment with the District. Earlier employment applications submitted by Ms. Tucci to other school districts, prior to her

employment with those districts, also indicate that she did not provide full and accurate information about her employment history. Ms. Tucci denies any intent to provide misleading information and subsequently filed a corrected, state-wide employment application with the S.C. Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention and Advancement (CERRA) on August 1, 2006. On August 14, 2006, Ms. Tucci began employment as an English teacher at Estill Middle School in Hampton County School District One.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

"The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. Just cause includes unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The Board finds that the information presented supports its determination that just cause exists to issue Ms. Tucci a public reprimand, on the condition that Ms. Tucci maintain the state-wide employment application on file with the CERRA to reflect current, complete information about her employment history. Accordingly, the State Board issues this Consent Order of Public Reprimand.

South Carolina State Board of Education

/S/ Joe Isaac  
Joe Isaac, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina  
October 11, 2006

I, Lenora Middleton Tucci, S.C. Educator Certificate 122796, do hereby agree to this Consent Order of Public Reprimand, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented as signed to the State Board of Education on October 11, 2006.

/S/ Lenora Middleton Tucci  
Lenora Middleton Tucci

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date